



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

251 Causeway Street, Suite 900

Boston, MA 02114-2119

Mitt Romney
GOVERNOR

Kerry Healey
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Ellen Roy Herzfelder
SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000

Fax: (617) 626-1181

or (617) 626-1180

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CONTACT:

Paul Nutting 617-626-1238

Jennifer Flagg 617-626-1022

MEDIA ADVISORY

Environmental Affairs' Office of Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS) will host its annual GIS Day on November 17, 2004 between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM in the Great Hall of the State House in Boston. At Noon, Christian Jacqz, Director of MassGIS, will provide remarks on recent accomplishments and upcoming projects at this exciting and evolving agency.

MassGIS develops computer-based mapping tools and data that transform geographical information such as streets and buildings into visual layers. Visualizing multiple features on one map leads to a better understanding of a particular location and enables planners and analysts to make better decisions about land use and service distribution in their communities.

GIS Day will feature a wide variety of presenters who use data generated by MassGIS. Presenters from such disparate agencies as the Department of Social Services, MassHighway, the Department of Public Health, Coastal Zone Management, and the Environmental Police, will join high school students and others to demonstrate how GIS is used. IsecureTrac will show how they use GIS and GPS to track level 3 sex offenders and parolees. By illustrating the diverse uses of GIS technology, a map gallery will compliment the interactive computer mapping displays.

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